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NEWS

Where to give away or donate stuff

ALISON SWALLOW | STAFF WRITER

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Need to clean out your house or free up some space, and you're not sure where to donate stuff? There are a few options right here in town. The Facebook group "Everything is Free Winchester, MA" provides a g platform for people to give away all manner of items from housewares to

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baby clothing to furniture. The En Ka Exchange Resale Shop, located at 1037 Main St, accepts clean in-season clothes for the family as well as accessories; any items not sold are donated to charity. For more information, call 781-729-6146 or email exchange@enkasociety.org.

Winchester resident Bonnie-Jean Butler, of Arlington St, has been working tirelessly for months to collect donations for people suffering from the war in Ukraine, and will soon have a new website to coordinate the large volume of donations. The Network for Social Justice is currently collecting used pack n plays and umbrella strollers to donate to the migrants and refugees living in Woburn. These items can be dropped off through September 30th on the front porch at 2 Watson Place, Winchester. Lastly, the swap shop at the Winchester transfer station operates May 1st through December 1st, 4 days a week; exact hours are listed at https://www.winchester.us/482/Swap-Shop

In addition, here is a list of organizations accepting donations on an ongoing basis:

Woburn Council of Social Concern, 2 Merrimac St, Woburn

Items accepted: vary depending on need, but lists are updated on website. Food pantry items are always welcome and are listed on website

https://www.socialconcern.org/waystogive/

Trinity Church Thrift Shop, 131 West Emerson St, Melrose

Items accepted: Men's and Women's clothing, small household items

https://trinitymelrose.org/thrift-shop/

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Goodwill Donation Center 905 Massachusetts Ave, Arlington

Goodwill Donation Center 36 Bedford At, Lexington

https://www.goodwillmass.org/donation-center-hours-locations/

Mission of Deeds, 6 Chapin Ave, Reading

Items accepted: furniture, some household and kitchen items, children's books & DVDs, pack n plays (specifications are listed on their website)

https://www.missionofdeeds.org/donate-goods/

The organizations below will come to your house to pick up donations. You can schedule a pickup date by going to their websites:

Vietnam Veterans of America

Items accepted: Men's, women's and children's clothes, shoes, small household and kitchen items, books

https://www.vvapickup.org/

Epilepsy Foundation of New England

Items accepted: Men's, women's and children's clothes, shoes, household goods, books

https://donateclothes.epilepsynewengland.org/schedule-pickup

Alison Swallow is a precinct 8 Town Meeting Member.

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Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

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Winchester gun owners face new training rules starting April 2

Public safety data How Winchester compares on firearms licenses in comparable Massachusetts communities Active licenses

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Sen. Jason Lewis, Mass. Senate strengthen fair housing protections for rente

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The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis

as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

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joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

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Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

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FEATURES

‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
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EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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